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Joseph H. Crowe
P.O. Box 216
Millville, CA 96062

April 5, 2004

Docket No. 03-080-1
Regulatory Analysis and Development
PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118
Riverdale, MD 20737-1238

Subject: Docket No. 03-080-1

To Whom It May Concern:

Our family has been in ranching for well over 60 years. We are very concerned about the outcome of reopening our Canadian borders and the detrimental effect it could have on our beef market.

I feel that before the reopening of the Canadian border, the Canadian feed mills and feedlots must comply with the stringent regulations that we have in place in the United States. Our export markets have not reopened, when they do resume, we should have the highest protection available, not lowering our standards as we ultimately will be importing from Canada at this time.

After these feeding standards are improved, then I feel we should only consider the metered importation of Canadian cattle 30 months of age or less destined for slaughter.

Thank you for your time. Please keep the consumer as well as the American ranching industry in mind as you make your recommendations concerning this important matter.

Sincerely



Joseph H., Crowe

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